

Personnel must:

- Have a medical examination certifying them as fit to perform their jobs while wearing protective respiratory equipment;
- Be trained in the proper use of respirators;
- Be fit-tested to ensure the respirator is properly sealed on the face and that only the respirator for which the individual is tested will be worn;
- Be clean-shaven in the area where the respirator fits onto the face; and
- Be aware of any adverse conditions or stress resulting from respirator use and leave the work area if necessary.

Employees who are required to wear respirators must participate in an established respiratory protection program. A complete respiratory protection program consists of the following elements.

- The program must be the responsibility of a qualified administrator.
- The program must be based on workplace-specific procedures.
- Respirator selection must be based on hazard assessments.
- Respirator wearers must participate in a program of medical evaluation.
- Respirator wearers must be fitted for the specific type and model of respirator to be worn.
- The program must include procedures for cleaning and maintaining respirators.
- Respirator wearers must receive training.
- Employees must use only respirators approved by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.
- Management must periodically evaluate the effectiveness of the respiratory protection program.

Respirator wearers are responsible for protecting their assigned respirator from damage, inspecting the respirator before and after each use, and

promptly reporting any suspected damage or malfunction. Wearers may clean and sanitize their respirators if given that responsibility by the respiratory protection program. Wearers must not modify their respirators in any way.

11.4 REFERENCES

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